every Wednesday. Price: \$2, in advance. It is the Official Mouth-piece of the Department of Agriculture, Immigration and Statistics; Gov. Z. B. Vance, Chairman; Col. L. L. Polk. Commissioner. Monthly reports are furnished by two or more correspondents from every county in North Carolina, giving all items of interest.

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> FARMER AND MECHANIC, Raleigh, N. C.

FALL PLOWING.

Our previous article under this heading was to impress the importance of keeping the idle capital in our teams employed &c.

Now we wish to show the great value of the work itself. The light sandy land farmers we believe lead in this work of early plowing. Yet it would seem to us they have the least reason. One plowing upon the sandy land would better equalize and absolve the mineral properties of the soil, than a half dozen plowings upon the clay. The sandy land sections have nearly always kept in advance in agriculture and we believe they have done so pretty much upon this advantage. A plowing is looked upon as preparation and the land that does not yield up its fruits to that treatment, we are accustomed to think has none to yield. Under this one plowing and planting system fully one third of our soil sometimes lies locked up in the great clods we leave baked and unbroken in the field. In this way a two fold mischief is accom-

plished. A large per cent. of the fertilizing agents that the land contains yields absolutely nothing to the crops. And again when the volatile matter is dissolved it is more back into the atmosphere again. Because it has been in a manner disengaged from the great mass, and thus an injury is done the land. If the sandy land farmers have found virtue and success in fall plowing how much more important it ought to be to the clay land farmer. The one has his soil in a measure already atomized; the other has something like a piece of putty in which he has to equalize plowing as preparation yields a good crop upon sand, it is no reason that one plowing should do the same upon clay. Fall plowing upon stiff land is a simple necessity to a paying crop. It must have (unless the seasons are very propitispring plowing. There are not very many inches between the top of our soil and the clay and to plow clay and bring to the surface some less. But if done in the fall, by continued freezing and thawing during the winter it loses its poison and becomes in a measure palatable food. This we all know not upon the teachings of science alone, but upon every day practice. Then why delay to take so plain an ad- | terests ? vantage? The plowing has to be done, and if it is worth double, being done in the Fall why not arrange to do it ?

What a mockery our spring preparation would seem to an advanced farmer accustomed to see his land plowed and replowed and narrowed and rolled until it is literally a seed bed, where each and every particle of plant food is ready to combine with its neighbor at the some of the English farmers.

and turn over some 5 or 6 inches of earth (or simply the soil if you mediately behind in the same fur- | shelves. Whilst some that are filled | so far as our experience goes, on | moral ruin and to act as a most

clay, and we have throughout a gathered the world over. No one higher rest for strulp [and than tion of vice, layer of clay between two layers of expects any of the fiery zeal of new any other crep. The English escisoil. If the land has vegetation | converts from farmers in any enterthe clay is heated by this from be- prise. On the other hand, we adlow, besides receiving a benefit from | mire their moral and political conthe water charged with the descend- servarism. But we can see no viring manures from above. If the tue in this agricultural conserva- to produce this result. The turland receives an application of man-tism when it amounts to indifferure broadcast and plowed this way | ence. We tell the leading, educated the heat must be greater and the farmers of the State, it is criminal layer of clay must become satura- not to bestir themselves in these can be kept upon such a diet. The ted and mellowed almost at once matters. Give the Department and animal than consumer 150 pounds should be kept away from loves as into a wholesome soil. In this way | the paper what they need, frequent the soil is really deepened. It is contributions. Let each farmer put down into the earth and a fresh | feel that he is individually responlayer of mineral matter is put upon top. Of course this must add to its | tended for his benefit. N. A. G. fertility without doing that positive first injury which would come as a result of placing the clay directly upon top. Subsoiling is beneficial but it must be very slow. For men of science and men of practical suceess tell us that but a few inches of the top earth is sufficient to hold and fix all of our manures The clay that has been subsoiled that is simply raised by a kind of coulter plow must ever taste but a flavoring of the rich juices from above. So we should say by all means plow in the Fall and let the great hammer of the elements help in the prepara-N. A. G.

INDIFFERENCE.

The kind we are thinking of is a sort of sickly, quasi, questionable, fish and fowl species of independence. And North Carolina farmers have got it very bad. If they cannot be convicted on this count, then we will barter our judgment, and "the best in the shop," (in the language of a noted jurist) for a Patent Office Report. It is written and seen so plainly in the every day lives of our people, they need only be reminded, we think, to confess judgment. It grows to be a sin of no little seriousness when we think of it in connection with our Department of Agriculture and its organ. Are our farmers standing by the creations of their own making? We think not. From those who do speak out, however, we hear praises liable to be by evaporation carried | and eulogiums from every quarter of Col. Polk, his energy, tact and peculiar fitness for his position. It is universally agreed that Captain Shotwell is a newspaper man of very superior capacity. They tell us the FARMER AND MECHANIC is a paying paper and gaining quite a solid basis amongst the people of the State. But how many farmers have made sacrifices in behalf of these State institutions? How many have given their own hearty, enerhis ingredients. And because one getic support? How many have done what they have only felt to be their duty to a plain self-interest? As we have said, everybody wishes them well—we have never seen a farmer who did not—But this indifference comes not of a want of interest really, but it is so, because it is a part of ous) quite double the work of a the nature of our farming people Now we wish to ask is not such indifference rather risky and dangerons! Is our condition such as to at all most of us must touch the indulge and justify this feeling? Is not the interests our whole people of this uncooked food, for our root- have at stake too important to be in any degree neglected by themselves, or trusted indifferently into the hands of agents? Ought you to expect good work; have you a right to expect success in your own behalf when you yourselves are so deadly indifferent to your own in-

This is an age of inventions, not miracles, and you cannot make such pack-horses of Colonel Polk and Captain Shotwell as to bear your short-comings. As a matter of pride we hate to see our people in this light. But is better our faults should be seen and talked about than concealed, to grow worse and bring what in the end must be its legitimate fruit. This is meant for the leading, educated farmers of the first appearance of moisture. The State. As proof they deserve it, most effective plowing we have ever | take up the files of the FARMER done has been after the fashion of AND MECHANIC during a nine months' existence and count the It is to take a large breasted plow | communications of farmers and see | vitality seems completely deadened. if their paucity does not astonish you- Look through the Agricullike) and then run a smaller one im- tural Museum and count the vacant | sandy and more open soils. But

sible for the success of what is in-

---BRIGHT TOBACCO

Not long since we were making some et quiries about seed leaf eigar tobacco, &c., in an editorial way. Col. Ott kindly replies. Our readers, we think, will bear us out in the assertion that not much of our space has been occupied with compliments. But in view of the fact that Col. Oft has done the State considerable service, we cannot forbear this opportunity to acknowledge it for our people, even though he does run a tilt with our agricultural chemist, and "go for" sometimes with alacrity a confessedly weak point in agricultural chemiatry. He has pursued the leading interest of his State-tebaccowith an energy and intelligence rarely to met with. We give a part of the proof of this fact as we know it will be acceptable and interesting to many of our readers.

Here is what he says: "As to eigarettes. The exhibition of John F. Allen & Co., at Paris, in particular, will be probably the heaviest help the bright toacco country of North Carolina has ever gotten. The examination made for me by Dr. Voeleker, of this type of tobacce, I took care to send generally over Europe, and Mr. Allen tells me their cigarettes are fast taking hold of the upper classes. The more they want, the more leaf our folks in North Caro lina can sell. I sent a bundle of fine Orange county (N. C.) leaf to the most distinguished man in his line in Paris, for examination and report, and I propose to send ancther to a man of like character in Germany."

This is the latest tobacco news and it must be cheering to the bright tobacco sections. We have not been exactly a Thomas about the future of bright tobacco, but we have entertained restless, uneasy feelings. But now we feel strengthened—with comfort from such a source, our tobacco is gathering to itself a base as broad as it promises to be enduring. Tobacco generally is considered a luxurybut the nature of our species of bright it is strictly speaking a firstclass luxury. It is delicate and refining certainly in color, and can be only indulged in by the wealthy. We like to be able to deal with necple who have fancies and have money to indulge them. That kind of trade is worth contending for: it does not know any of the laws of necessity and hard times.

We will give in another article what Col Ott says about the curing of eigar tobacco.

TURNIPS.

It is getting to be time now for the preparation of the turnip erop. Whilst we are free to admit for the turnip all its rightful claims, yet we do not confess to the unbounded faith of some of our people. Much of our admiration here is based upon a false notion of the value that the English people bestow upon this crop. The turnip has always been to as a very costly crop. It takes deep plowing, nice preparation, and heavy manuring to make them, and we have found them upon our clay lands to be really the most injurious of all our crops. Somohow the lands become so baked and hardened after the crop, that its This objection, however, we suppose, does not hold good on the

This paper is printed at 10 P.M. row some 5 or 6 inches into the show as fine products as may be the play hands we should charge a powerful agent for the disseminant work Westmander Private 50 in ad matestake about 7 pounds of barley nips, it takes from 150 to 200 lbs. water, and what an absardity at starvation or a thirst that comes of rich cake, and meal, and grain, an appetite as that. The English people value them chiefly as a coolstock. It is a mistake for us to do are fed upon grain or dry food. crease wonderfully the flow of milk, steamed or partially cooked. We have found or hard grass 1 to, kept | void of the rough appearance charac turnip. The frosts kill the fall spring opens, sheep, in eating, mix | ner, the old and new grass together. preventing the dangers and evil effects of too much green food. Thus we save certainly the cost of cultivating and preparing green food. Corn can be fed to them upon those loss, and under this treatment of feeding and manaring. the grass improves with every sea-

> son and so do the stock. N. A. G. READING FOR BOYS.

A reporter of the Tribune has been talking with the superintendent of the New York Juvenile Asylum, who confirmed all that has been urged of late relative to the permissions effects wrought by sensational literature for the young.

Said the superintendent: Almost the first quest on I put to the unfortunate lads is "What have you been reading?" and the answer invariably shows that my surmise was right. The horrible, trashy literature these boys feed on is what corrupts their minds. The other day a boy was brought here in whose pockets were found a toy pistol, three revolvers, three boxes of cartridges, a gold watch and three large new jackknives. With this display before me I asked the usual question, and the answer came promptly; "I read The Boys of New York." The boy had an uncle in Connecticut from whom he had run away after stealing his money and the watch.

What makes this evil the harder

to strike at is, that it is a wrong

committed wholly under the pro-

tection of the law. The publishers of the flash weeklies have a legal right to after their abominable, harmful stuff; newsdealers have a right to sell it and, so far as the law is concerned, boys have a right to buy it. Parental caution, the only power having the right to intervene in behalf of youthful morality, practically is powerless; for in despite of the utmost watchfulness boys will manage in nine cases out of ten to outwit their parents and accomplish the wrong upon which they have set their minds. And it must be remembered that in the great majority of instances the boys most likely to be harmed by flashy realing are those who are ces and to whom the word "father" suggests only an embodiment of brute force liable at any time to be exerted in such way as to cause them pain, but never by any chance to do them good. As to the waifs and strays of the great cities, the haples little creatures who seem to come up sp ntaneously, like a deprayed and blackened variety of the lilies of the field; who may have known something of a mother in very early life, but who certainly never have been wise enough to find out their fathers—for these unfortunates there is no protection whatever. They are cut adrift at the age when their luckier fellows are still in the nursery, and what education they get they squeeze out of the world as they pass along. Where they ever learn to read is a mystery, but they generally do pick up this solitary accomplishment, and, having it, they make an utterly bad use of it. It is not to be wondered at that, working on such material. the flash press, aided by the flash stage, contrives to bring about

The need for legislation in the premises is evident, but the case is a very hard one to deal with ale- 4 or bear-tabel, or oil cake, to make quarely in accordance with the a pound of ment; whereas, of tur- forms of law, Stories of adventure, even stories with real pirmes Lanes Patent Saw-Mile in them, if writen in a nately. honest way, are wholesome reading min contains about 90 per cent. of for boys and should not be withhold postages are a real s from them. Stories containing must be to suppose that an animal precisely the same elements. but treated in a deferent way, are intimucly productive of mischiof, and of turnips takes in about 134 gal- | though they were - as, indeed, they long of water. Nothing except are deadly, posson. Yet to frame a law which shall permit the good to flourish while at the same (the the had is ent off is a delicate and could cause anything to have such | difficult task .- Public pero reary

The Wilmington Star tell about a man who had curious sensations in ing, soothing alterative for fat his stoomen and chest. At the estimes, with a feeling of faintness, and could more. For malk cows, where they | with difficulty keep from fallings. the took various prescriptions without experiencing more than temporary returnips have a fine effect and in- lief, notifilast Monday morning when his stomach was recieved of an object which upon save digation, proved to especially when they are citl up, be, to all appearances, a troposin snake about twelve inches in length and large in proportion, though defree 'rom stock during Summer teristic of the "out-door" repuls Since that time the patient has imand Fall to fill all the offices of the proved wonderfully as regnula has general health, and doclars that he ricels like a new man." He says be growth and this old fory falls down thinks he must have introduced the and under it during our winters reptile into his stumuch while drinking water at a spring, as he can account the grass grows greenly and as the for its prescuce there is monthly man-

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